

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment After Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and reconsider the application as amended for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments place the claims in condition for allowance and/or in better condition for appeal. The following remarks are responsive to the Final Office Action mailed July 9, 2004.

Status of Claims

Claims 2-3, 6-17, 19-31, 33-43, 45, 49-57, 59-67 and 78-81 are pending in the application. Claims 19 and 45 have been indicated as allowable. Therefore, the following remarks are directed to the objected and rejected claims.

No claims have been added by this amendment. Claims 1, 4-5, 18, 32, 44, 46-48, 58 and 68-77 have been canceled, without prejudice. Therefore, it is submitted that the rejection with respect to such claims is moot.

Claims 2-3, 6, 16-17, 20, 33-35, 42-43, 49-51, 59-61 and 78 have either been amended to be written in independent format to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim or to depend from an allowable claim.

Claim Objections and Rejections

Claims 6-15, 22-31, 51-57 and 61-67 have been objected. No reason for the objection was provided in the office action. Per a telephone conversation with the Examiner on September 28, 2004, the Examiner indicated claims 6-15, 22-31, 51-57 and 61-67 would be allowable if re-written in independent format to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is submitted that claims 6-15, 22-31, 51-57 and 61-67 have either been re-written in independent format to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, or been amended to depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, claims 6-15, 22-31, 51-57 and 61-67 are in condition for allowance.

It is also submitted that claims 2-3, 16-17, 20, 33-35, 42, 49-50, and 59-60 have been amended to depend from allowable claims and, therefore, claims 2-3, 16-17, 20-21, 33-43, 49-50, and 59-60 are also in condition for allowance.

With respect to claims 78-81, it is submitted that claim 78 has been amended to include the limitation of "wherein each link of said plurality of links includes a total bandwidth and provides a guaranteed bandwidth to a user and wherein said total bandwidth of each link of said plurality of links is greater than a sum of said guaranteed bandwidth provided by any two links of said plurality of links" which was noted by the Office Action as not being disclosed by the cited references. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 78, and its dependent claims 79-81, are in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments set forth herein, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.


If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 9/30, 2004


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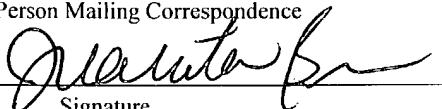
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